

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 is amended to address the minor issue noted at the top half of page two of the Official Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejection based on the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

Appreciation is expressed to Examiner Mazumdar for the indication that Claims 2-4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Responding to the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of independent Claim 1, Applicant does not embrace the observation in the Official Action that Claim 1 is obvious in view of the invention defined in Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 of copending application No. 10/553,673. Nevertheless, to advance prosecution of this application, submitted with this Amendment is a Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is respectfully requested.

Early and favorable action regarding this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful

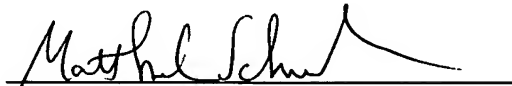
in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: January 4, 2007

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